GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1480
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2016
Special Schools for Visually Challenged Children
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open special schools for visually challenged children in the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of visually challenged children and the special schools being run for them in the country, Statewise; and

(d) the amount of funds allocated for the education of such children during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. As per entry No. 9 of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, "Relief of the disabled" figures in the State List. However the Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments through its various schemes/programmes. Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) of the Ministry grant-in-aid is provided to Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs)/Voluntary Organisations (VOs) for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities including those running special schools for the Visually Impaired in the country.

(c) & (d) As per census 2011, total number of persons with disabilities in the age group of 0-19 is 14,10,554. A statement indicating state-wise the number of special schools for Visually Impaired (VI) assisted under DDRS and the funds released during the last three years and current year is at Annexure. Besides, National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun is also running a model special school for Visually Impaired (VI) children. The funds allocated to the school during the last three years and the current year are (i) 2013-14- Rs.77.78 lakhs, (ii)2014-15-Rs.122.66 lakh, (iii) 2015-16-Rs. 89.13 lakhs & (iv) 2016-17- Rs. 17.46 lakh (till date).

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